

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-01

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 MC-01 /060 W
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R 011451Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9782

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

DOD WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 4107

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SZ, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH OFFER OF MIRAGE V TO SWISS AF

1. SWISS MILITARY DEPARTMENT (EMD) ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 31 RECEIPT OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM (PRIMEMIN CHIRAC TO FEDERAL COUNCIL VIA SWISS AMB PARIS) WITH OFFER TO SELL MIARAGE V. PRICE OF AIRCRAFT IS REPORTEDLY 9.5 MILLION SWISS FRANCS "EMPTY" AND SF 15 MILLION WITH ALL EQUIPMENT. NO INDICATION ON WHAT BASIS THESE FIGURES WERE PROVIDED. EMD ANNOUNCEMENT APPARENTLY PRECIPITATED BY FRENCH LEAK ATTRIBUTED TO DASSAULT TO LAUSANNE'S "24 HERUES."

2. EMD SPOKESMAN MADE IT CLEAR THAT FRENCH MEMO WILL BE STUDIED IN LIGHT OF GOS DECISION OF JANUARY 23, 1974. THIS DECISION PROVIDED: 1) FIGHTER AIRCRAFT EVALUATION TO BE CONCENTRATED ON F-5E TIGER II IN ORDER TO RECOMMEND TO FEDERAL COUNCIL BY END OF 1974 SELECTION OF AIRCRAFT FOR PURCHASE; 2) CONTINUED EXAMINATION OF THE AIRCRAFT MARKET IN ORDER TO BE IN A POSITION TO ACT SPEEDILY SHOULD THE TIGER II PURCHASE NOT PROVE FEASIBLE.

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3. OUR SOURCES IN EMD CONFIRM THAT FRENCH OFFER WILL
IN NO WAY CAUSE SWISS TO DEVIATE FROM THEIR CONCENTRATION
ON THE TIGER II EVALUATION, WHICH CONTINUES TO PROCEED
SMOOTHLY.

4. OFFER OF MIRAGE V WAS WIDELY REPORTED IN SWISS MEDIA,
BUT COMMENTARY HAS BEEN LARGELY NEGATIVE. NEUE ZURCHER
ZEITUNG HEADLINED STORY "NO AIRCRAFT DIPLOMACY A SECOND
TIME". JOURNAL DE GENEVE COMMENTED THAT TIS ONE HAS
MADE GOVERNMENT CIRCLES BERN AS "FURIOUS" AS 1972 PLOY
BY DASSAULT BEFORE A-7 DECISION.
DAVIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, MIARAGE V, AIR FORCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005